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EXAMINER

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/002,439
Filing Date: November 01, 2001
Appellant(s): KOVED ET AL.

Rakesh Garg
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed May 1, 2006 appealing from the Office action mailed September 22, 2005.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

6,047,377

Gong

4-2000

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

5. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gong (U.S. Patent 6,047,377).

Regarding claim 1, Gong discloses:

A method of controlling access to computer system resources based on permissions, comprising:

“receiving a request for access to a computer system resource” (Figure 7 item 750, column 6 lines 36-46, column 18 line 29 – column 19 line 36);

“determining if a superclass permission of a required permission is present in each protection domain of an access control context, wherein the superclass permission is a super class of the required permission” (column 6 lines 36-46, column 18 lines 29-45);

“adding the required permission to a permission collection if the superclass permission of the required permission is present in each protection domain of the access control context” (column 17 lines 1-5, column 19 lines 37-43);
and

“granting access to the resource if the superclass permission of the required permission is present in each protection domain of the access control context” (column 10 lines 59-67, column 19 lines 4-36).

Regarding claims 3,13, and 23 Gong discloses:

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“determining the required permission based on a CodeSource associated with the request” (column 14 lines 28-36, column 15 lines 65-67); and

“determining the superclass permission of the required permission based on the required permission” (column 6 lines 36-46, column 18 lines 29-45).

Regarding claims 5,15, and 25, Gong discloses:

wherein adding the required permission to a permission collection includes ***“creating a new permission collection and adding the required permission to the new permission collection”*** (column 16 line 56 – column 17 line 13).

Regarding claims 6,16, and 26, Gong discloses:

wherein adding the required permission to a permission collection further includes ***“adding any subclass permissions of the required permission to the new permission collection”*** (column 16 line 56 – column 17 line 13).

Regarding 8, 18 and 28, Gong discloses:

wherein adding the required permission to a permission collection includes ***“adding the permission to a permission collection associated with the superclass permission”*** (column 16 line 56 – column 17 line 13).

(10) Response to Argument

A. The Reference does not anticipate claims 1-2, 4, 7, 9-12, 14, 19-22, 24, 27, and 29-30.

The Appellant has argued:

Gong does not teach the step of “determining if a superclass permission of a required permission is present in each protection domain of an access control context, wherein the superclass permission is a super class of the required permission.”

The Examiner contends that a “superclass” as defined in the Applicant’s application, is a base permission which is defined along with inherited, or subclass permissions that fall below the base permission in a hierarchy of permissions. Gong discloses a hierarchy of permissions as well, with the permission superclass being the highest permission on the hierarchy tree (column 6 lines 27-35). Furthermore, the permissions which encompass the permissions below them, can be interpreted as “super classes” of the permissions they encompass. Based on this definition of super class, Gong discloses, “if every associated protection domain contains a permission object that represents a permission encompassing the required permission, then the requested action is authorized” (column 19 lines 26-30). The “permission encompassing the required permission” is interpreted as being the superclass, as it is a higher permission as it “encompasses” the required permission. Furthermore, if this

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superclass permission of the required permission is contained in “every associated protection domain” is analogous to the superclass permission of a required permission being present in each protection domain of the claim 1. Furthermore, the access control context is analogous to authorizing an action, as it is granting access to perform a certain action. Therefore, it is asserted that Gong meets every aspect and limitation of the above claim limitation.

B. The Reference does not teach all the features of Claims 3,13, and 23.

The Appellant further argues:

Gong does not teach, “determining the superclass permission of the required permission based on the required permission.”

The Examiner contends that Gong teaches determining which encompassing permission (superclass permission) contains the required permission for the action (column 18 lines 37-45). If the encompassing permission (superclass permission) of the required permission is present in every protection domain, then access is authorized for the action (column 18 lines 37-45). Therefore, the Examiner respectfully asserts that Gong does teach determining the superclass permission of the required permission based on the required permission.

C. The Reference does not teach all the features of Claims 5,15, and 25.

The Appellant further argues:

Gong does not teach, "creating a new permission collection and adding the required permission to the new permission collection."

The Examiner contends that Gong teaches creating a new permission collection and adding the required permission to the new permission collection. Gong teaches, "when a new category of permissions is desired, a new subclass is created" (column 19 lines 36-38). This new subclass is analogous to the new permission collection because it contains different permissions. Furthermore, Gong teaches that "the particular rules or policy that govern whether the permissions granted a principal are encompassed by permission in the new category are implemented in the validation method of the new subclass representing permissions in the new subclass" (column 19 lines 39-43). The validation method is responsible for checking if the required permission that has been added to the new subclass, is encompassed by a permission in the new category. Furthermore, if a new subclass is being created, based on Gong's inheritance principals (column 6 lines 31-35), the permissions would be passed down from the superclass down to the subclasses, so the required permissions would be added to the subclasses (permission collections).

D. The Reference does not teach all the features of Claims 6,16, and 26.

The Appellant further argues:

Gong does not teach “adding any subclass permissions of the required permission to the new permission collection.”

Gong teaches, “when a new category of permissions is desired, a new subclass is created” (column 19 lines 36-38). This new subclass is analogous to the new permission collection because it contains different permissions. Furthermore, Gong teaches that “the particular rules or policy that govern whether the permissions granted a principal are encompassed by permission in the new category are implemented in the validation method of the new subclass representing permissions in the new subclass” (column 19 lines 39-43). The validation method is responsible for checking if the required permission that has been added to the new subclass, is encompassed by a permission in the new category. Furthermore, if a new subclass is being created, based on Gong’s inheritance principals (column 6 lines 31-35), the permissions would be passed down from the superclass down to the subclasses, so the required permissions and any subclass permissions which encompass the new subclass would be added to the new subclass (permission collection).

E. The Reference does not teach all the features of Claims 8, 18, and 28.

Finally, the Appellant argues:

Gong does not teach “adding the permission to a permission collection associated with the superclass permission.”

Gong teaches, “when a new category of permissions is desired, a new subclass is created” (column 19 lines 36-38). This new subclass is analogous to the new permission collection because it contains different permissions. Furthermore, Gong teaches that “the particular rules or policy that govern whether the permissions granted a principal are encompassed by permission in the new category are implemented in the validation method of the new subclass representing permissions in the new subclass” (column 19 lines 39-43). The validation method is responsible for checking if the required permission that has been added to the new subclass, is encompassed by a permission in the new category. Furthermore, if a new subclass is being created, based on Gong’s inheritance principals (column 6 lines 31-35), the permissions would be passed down from the superclass down to the subclasses, so the required permissions and any subclass permissions which encompass the new subclass (superclass) would be added to the new subclass (permission collection).

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner’s answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

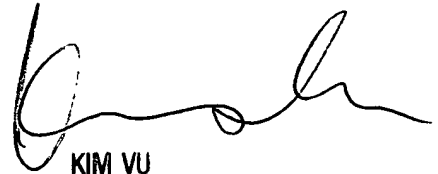
KA 7/17/06
KA 07/18/2006

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